Application No. 10/648,305

Amendments to the claims:

14:02

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

- 1. (currently amended) A torsion bar that can be installed in a seat belt retractor as an energy absorber, comprising:
 - a torsion bar;

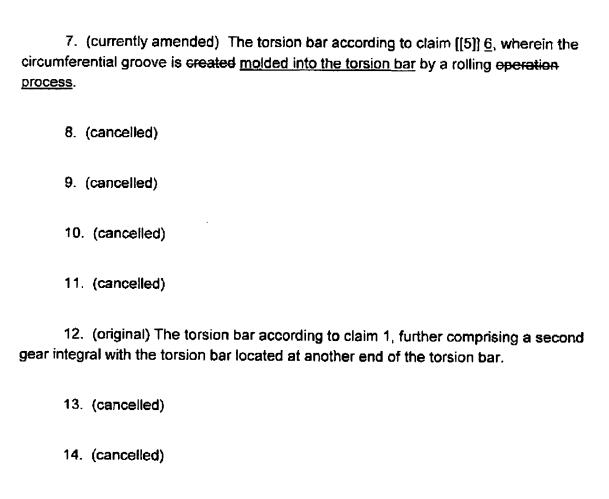
[[and]] a gear integral therewith[[,]]; wherein the gear is created by submitting the torsion bar to a rolling operation... and

a flange integral with the torsion bar, the flange being located at an end of the torsion bar with a circumferential groove in the bar being adjacent to and disposed between the flange and the gear, wherein the circumferential groove extends into the torsion bar more deeply in a radial direction than the adjacent gear, the circumferential groove having a side boundary surface on the flange and a side boundary surface adjacent to and radially deeper than the gear.

- 2. (cancelled)
- 3. (cancelled)
- 4. (cancelled)
- 5. (cancelled)
- 6. (currently amended) The torsion bar according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the gear adjacent to the circumferential groove is molded on to the torsion bar circumferential groove is created by a rolling eperation process.

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- 15. (original) The torsion bar according to claim 6, further comprising a second gear integral with the torsion bar located at another end of the torsion bar.
- 16. (original) The torsion bar according to claim 7, further comprising a second gear integral with the torsion bar located at another end of the torsion bar.
- 17. (currently amended) The torsion bar according to claim 12, wherein the second gear is ereated molded onto the torsion bar by submitting the torsion bar to a rolling eperation process.